



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

October 17, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AWARD OF CONTRACT
C.P. 69197; PROJECT ID NO. AED0000001
KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA
SLOPE LANDSCAPING PROJECT
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2
3 VOTES**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AND
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Award and instruct Director to prepare and execute the construction contract for Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Slope Landscaping Project, in the vicinity of Baldwin Hills (2), to Tropical Creations Incorporated, in the amount of \$140,073.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On August 13, 2002, your Board authorized the Director of Public Works to adopt the plans and specifications and advertise for construction bids for the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Slope Landscaping Project.

The recommended action will award a construction contract to Tropical Creations Incorporated for the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Slope Landscaping Project, in the northern Baldwin Hills area of unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The landscaping improvements project consists of slope preparation, planting, hydroseeding, and the installation of an irrigation system. The majority of the slope area will be hydroseeded with a California native perennial grass and shrubs seed mix. The lowest slope terrace adjacent to the highly visible La Cienega Boulevard corridor will be planted with California native shrubs from container-size stocks. The newly landscaped slope will be irrigated with an automatic irrigation system.

The proposed project will benefit the local communities since it will enhance the exterior appearance and control erosion on a slope within the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence since it will enhance the aesthetic values of the area and will stabilize and control erosion on a slope within the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area thereby improving vehicular and pedestrian safety.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Project Budget Impact

The recommended construction contract cost is \$161,100, including a base contract of \$140,073 and a change order contingency fund of \$21,027. The construction bid received from the lowest responsible and responsive contractor was \$37,879 lower than estimated. It is recommended that the \$37,879 be allocated to an Unforeseen Site Conditions line item in the project budget and utilized, if necessary, for the implementation of the proposed landscaping project. The total estimated project costs including designs, plans, specifications, County services, project management, and construction is \$250,000. Sufficient appropriation is available in the Kenneth Hahn Slope Stabilization Project (CP No. 69197) of the 2002-03 Capital Project Adopted Budget.

Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Adopted Capital Project Budget identified net County cost for slope stabilization projects at several parks throughout the County. Since that time, two projects have been completed. The final element of the Kenneth Hahn Park Slope Stabilization Project is the proposed landscaping portion, which is funded by net County cost. The remaining three projects are being evaluated and will be presented to your Board if and when plans and specifications are completed.

Operating Budget Impact

Upon completion of the slope landscaping project, Parks and Recreation, with the concurrence from the Chief Administrative Office, anticipates that there will be zero one-time costs incurred and \$69,586 in estimated ongoing operational and maintenance costs. Estimated ongoing requirements include \$41,586 for salaries and employee benefits for one grounds maintenance worker, and \$28,000 for irrigation utilities and maintenance supplies.

Sufficient appropriation has been identified and set aside in the 2002-03 Provisional Financing Uses Budget in anticipation of a mid-year 2002-03 budget adjustment to fund the increase in the Parks and Recreation operating budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The recommended contract award is to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in accordance with the California Public Contract Code and your Board's directives. The enclosure includes the project description, the call for bids and bid opening dates, a tabulation of bids, and financial information. The certified record of receipt of bids and the original bid proposals for this project are also enclosed, including addenda to the contract specifications.

We have developed an outreach program to encourage all qualified contractors to participate in the bidding and contracting process on our projects. Under this program, we place notices of upcoming bids in local and minority newspapers throughout the County. These notices indicate that copies of plans and specifications are available at specified libraries and the Public Works Headquarters building. This allows interested contractors to view the plans and specifications at convenient locations. We also provide telephone numbers (including one for Spanish-speaking contractors) to obtain further information on bidding and subcontracting opportunities.

To further increase contractor awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, this project was listed on the County website for upcoming bids.

The State Labor Code requires contractors to pay prevailing wage rates to all persons employed on public works construction contracts. These rates are determined by the Department of Industrial Relations and include contributions for fringe benefits such as vacations, pension funds, training, and health plans for each employee.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The contract will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel. We will also review and approve the faithful performance and payment bonds filed by the contractor.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

On August 13, 2002, your Board certified that the project was categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1, Subsection (x)(12); and Class 4, Subsection (c), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The contract was solicited on an open competitive basis in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code. The contract is being awarded to Tropical Creations Incorporated, which was the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

The project specifications contain provisions (1) requiring the contractor to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, and (3) requiring the contractor to comply with the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program.

Public Works has confirmed that the contractor is in compliance with the County's Child Support Compliance Program.

The project specifications also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory performance history, bidders were required to report violations of the False Claims Act, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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information reported by the contractor was considered before making this recommendation to approve execution of the contract.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The project is to be completed in 70 working days with a 90-day maintenance period to begin upon completion of the planting and irrigation installation. It is estimated that the work will start in October 2002 and be completed in February 2003. Local residents and businesses will be informed that traffic and local access will be mildly disrupted during the construction.

CONCLUSION

Please return approved copies of this letter to the Department of Public Works; Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division; and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

TIM GALLAGHER
Director of Parks and Recreation

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

AWARD OF CONTRACT
October 17, 2002

C. P. 69197; PROJECT ID NO. AED0000001, KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA, SLOPE LANDSCAPING PROJECT (in the vicinity of Baldwin Hills),
Supervisory District 2

TYPE OF WORK: Slope preparation, planting, hydroseeding, and installation of an irrigation system.

CALL FOR BIDS DATE: August 13, 2002 (Synopsis 22)

BID OPENING DATE: September 10, 2002

BID SUMMARY:

Low	Tropical Creations Incorporated, a corporation 5310 Circle Drive, Suite 204 Sherman Oaks, California 91401 (818) 905-0725	\$140,073.00
2	FYR Landscaping, Inc.	\$152,813.00
3	Nativ Engineering, Inc.	\$154,786.00
4	A. M. Classic Construction, Inc.	\$157,000.00
5	E & M Constructors	\$171,444.00
6	Mariposa Horticultural Enterprises, Inc.	\$177,920.00
7	S & M Landscape, Inc.	\$192,665.00

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Amount of engineer's estimate	\$177,952.00
Amount of recommended contract	\$140,073.00
Amount of recommended contract below engineer's estimate	\$ 37,879.00

The amount of the recommended contract is 21 percent below the estimate.

Sufficient funds are available from the Kenneth Hahn Slope Stabilization Project (CP No. 69197) of the 2002-03 Capital Project Adopted Budget.

MINORITY/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DATA:

Tropical Creations Incorporated has no MWBE subcontractors/suppliers under this contract, which does not have a Federal- or State-mandated DBE goal.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

On August 13, 2002, your Board certified that the project was categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1, Subsection (x)(12); and Class 4, Subsection (c), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The contract specifications require the work to be completed in 70 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in October 2002 and be completed in February 2003.

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